

WASHINGTON, SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 1907.

NEWS AND GOSSIP FROM THE CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD

ROTTING TO DEATH
IN CZAR'S PRISONSOvercrowding of Russian
Jails Worst in History
of Land.Prisoners Lie in Corridors
On Damp Floors in Midst
of Vermin.Officials Cry Out Against
Conditions But Still Get
Victims.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 26.—Hunger, thirst, typhus and scurvy are blighting the ranks of the czar's foes even more effectively than the drumhead courts-martial, which every month hang or shoot 200 men and women.

The men and women who are executed are usually guilty of some offence, however trifling. The vast majority of the men and women who are rotting to death in jail have been guilty of no offence whatever. They are suspects, or persons arrested by administrative order. They petition vainly for trial or release, but the only release they obtain is death.

The overcrowding of Russian prisons has now attained a degree never reached during the worst days of Russian despotism. Every prison of the empire is choked. Prisons planned for 100 men contain 200. Prisons planned for 1,000 men contain 3,000. The official figures show that not a single prison contains merely its full complement or less. Even at Tsarskoe-Selo, under the czar's nose, there are 245 men, women, and children in a jail equipped for only 142.

Prisoners lie in corridors on damp floors, on verminous bedding. When all the cells are crowded, victims of both sexes and all ages are thrown into freezing wooden sheds hastily cast up in the courtyards.

Prisoners Lie in Corridors.
Women "politicals" with unweaned children lie on the floors crowded with dirt. There are no sanitary appliances. There is no privacy. There is no air. It is impossible to open windows during a Russian winter; there is no ventilation.

Typhus and scurvy rage. The victims cannot be removed to hospitals because the prison hospitals are already used for imprisoning the fever-ridden stream of arrested persons. Women die of typhus among crowds of noisy, dirty, professional criminals. Their dead bodies lie whole days on the floors, because the prison servants are too overworked to attend to them. The infection spreads; there are neither doctors, nor food nor medicines.

Want No More Victims.
All these facts are taken from government reports, lately issued. According to their own account, the prison officials spend half their days at the telephone begging the governors and political police to send them no more victims. The governors reply, "You must find room," and finally men, women and children are thrown into the corridors, where they lie packed so thickly that the wardens have to step between their legs in order to pass.

"And all," so says M. Irmloff, who has just been released, "pant for air, choke, cough and cry for death. All starve, all after a short time of incarceration, suffer from rheumatism. Everything is filthy and dank. The teeth fall out from scurvy. The luckiest contract typhus, become delirious and die. And every day more and more healthy men and women, schoolboys and schoolgirls are brought in, either to die or to be released after months, cripples and lunatics."

BONI'S MOTHER NOTED
FOR MANY CHARITIES

PARIS, Jan. 26.—The Marquise de Castellane, mother to Count Boni de Castellane, is well known in Paris for her many charitable actions and her kindness to the poor. She takes a special interest in the question of the young girl who, having left her home and gone to a strange city could so easily become a prey to those on the lookout for such young inexperienced girls.

The marquise is one of the leading lights for the Society for the Protection of Young Girls in France. She is much loved by these girls, and nothing delights them so much as to be allowed to cluster around her and tell her their histories and all about "those at home."

EDNA MAY HIS GUEST.
DENIES ALL RUMORS

LONDON, Jan. 26.—Miss Edna May, who is now playing in "Nelly Neal," the new musical comedy by Messrs. McLean and Ivan Caryll, has been forced to give up the country life which she has been enjoying for some three months past.

She laughingly denies the rumors which have been floating about that she is secretly married to her fiancé, Oscar Lewisohn, of New York. Miss May and her mother have been staying with Mr. Lewisohn for the past three months at the pretty house he took at Ascot.

CZAR'S COUSIN FIGHTS
FOR BEAUTY PAINTING

MAKOVSKY'S RUSSIAN BEAUTY.

Grand Duke Alexander in Row With Moscow
Gallery, Whose Founder Bought Picture
He Had Ordered.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 26.—A painting of a Russian beauty, by the famous artist, Makovsky, is claimed by the Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovitch, the czar's cousin, from the Tretiakov Art Gallery, at Moscow.

Although hung in the art gallery, it appears that the picture was painted for the grand duke, who had paid part of the price. Owing to the grand duke not completing the purchase, the picture was sold to the founder of the Moscow gallery, M. Tretiakov, who gave it to the nation.

The grand duke claims the picture is his on his paying the remainder of the price, but the trustees of the gallery are taking the case into court.

SPIRIT OF PEACE
PERVADES NATIONS
OF THE OLD WORLD

By The MARQUIS DE CASTELLANE.

PARIS, Jan. 26.—Nineteen hundred and seven, young though the year is, has already extended the traditional olive branch. Thanks to the ability of those who have directed our foreign policies during the past years, alliances and friendships have been so well knit that the idea of war cannot get the upper hand in any of the countries under their influence.

Germany, Austria, and Italy have found an admirable balance in the Franco-Russian alliance, augmented by the entente cordiale with England. It is certain that 1907 will bring nothing to Europe which could serve as a pretext for quarreling or even for bad blood.

No country, small or great, can feel itself so strong as to attempt to impose upon others its individual views. One thing, and one thing only, constitutes a menace which personally I consider as almost inevitable. That is, the question which will confront Germany on the day after the death of the Austrian Emperor—namely, the dissolution of the Hapsburg Empire.

Will William II resist the temptation of annexing the German parts of Austria and of securing at Trieste, in the Adriatic, a pendant to Hamburg in the Baltic?

Pan-Germanism is already preaching the holy war with such persistence that this monarch would have to be a hero to refrain from the idea of acquiring by arms what the congress of Europe would deny him. One can imagine the vexation of Italy with 19,000 more Germans at her heart.

PLANS EXPELLING
FRENCH GAMBLERS

Cabinet Minister Clemenceau After the Clubs of Paris.

PARIS, Jan. 26.—M. Clemenceau, the Cabinet minister, whose energy is much a bugbear to those who have to work under him, has decided to expel all foreigners from France, who are at the head of gambling clubs in Paris. This decision arrived at, strong measures were immediately put into operation (as in M. Clemenceau's way) and forty-two Belgians who were employed in gambling houses and their chief, M. Marquet, were ordered to leave French territory at once.

Since 1901 France has become a regular gambling hell, and a sort of refuge was formed here, chiefly composed of foreigners, who ran these houses as clubs. These clubs were visited by actresses and well-known society women under the pretext of having a gossip with their friends, but in reality to play with all the money they can lay their hands on; sometimes with more than they possessed. They are glad to pay their bills and gambled with the money instead. Enormous sums are stated to have been lost by these ladies, some of them losing from \$20,000 to \$30,000 in an evening.

Some became so infatuated with the game or mad with the desire to win back their losses that they easily fell victims to the temptations suggested by the blackimps in the shape of shady brokers who stood around their chairs and pulled off their jewelry and sold it to the brokers. Shame, ruin, and disgrace is the penalty some of them have had to pay for their brief excitement.

BRITISH OWN LAND
OUTSIDE ENGLAND

LONDON, Jan. 26.—An interesting list of estates outside the British Isles, owned by members of the English aristocracy, is published here. It omits to mention, however, the most interesting of all—the American property of Edward, which brings in his Majesty a handsome income.

The late Queen Victoria owned real estate in New York, which produced about \$600,000 in the last fifteen years. Who is the present owner of this property is unknown, since the Queen's will has never yet been through the ordinary course of probate.

The Duke of Westminster has immense farms in South Africa. The Earl of Gathliff owns a ranch in Dakota. Mary, Duchess of Sutherland, owns real estate in Florida. The Duke of Manchester is the proprietor of land in New Zealand as is also the Earl of Lytton. Lord Delamere breeds ostriches and grows cotton in Uganda. Lord Rosebery owns real estate in the city of Melbourne, Victoria, in which colony the Earl of Banbury owns, 11,000 acres of cultivated land.

Lord Howard de Walden is a landowner in East Africa. Lord William Cecil has an Egyptian estate. The Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Dundonald, and ex-Premier Balfour have estates in Canada; while Lord Fitzwilliam owns land in nearly every part of the world.

The most beautiful estate in Portugal is owned by Sir Frederick Cook, a millionaire draper, who entertained King Carlos there. His Majesty was obliged to confess that Monserrate outshone any of his own royal residences, declaring it was a "perfect Eden."

SHOOTING A FARCE
AS REGARDS SPORT

LONDON, Jan. 26.—King Edward's shooting at Chatsworth, where he was the guest of the Duke of Devonshire, was the usual battle of nearly tame birds, driven onto the guns of the sportsmen, resulting in huge bags, but absolutely devoid of any element of sport properly so called. The Chatsworth shooting is criticised as "magnificent, but not sport."

His majesty, however, showed more of the sporting instinct than some of the other guests. He carefully picked out his birds and took long shots. He used a hammerless gun, and was accompanied, as always, by his own special loader, Pew.

In contrast to his majesty's methods was that of some other guests, who used Winchester repeaters with five changes, enabling them to have three dead birds in the air at once. His majesty showed that his health was much improved since he was at Chatsworth a year ago. Instead of shooting, as then, from a pony chaise, he shot on foot, and displayed great activity in mounting his pony to ride to the luncheon tent.

FRANCE BIDS WELCOME
TO BANISHED EMPRESS

PARIS, Jan. 26.—The Empress Eugenie has arrived in Paris from England, where she has been staying for some time. She will make but a brief sojourn in this city, where she has known such great sorrow and such joy. The Parisians respect her greatly, and although a banished empress, she is allowed to come and go whenever she likes. After leaving Paris she will go on to Cap Martin, where she will spend the rest of the winter.

CZAR'S BABY HEIR
TO DON UNIFORM

Will Wear Regiments of Colonel of Finnish Guards.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 26.—The baby czaritch will don his first uniform at the age of two and a half. As colonel-in-chief of the Finnish Guards, his imperial highness is to receive from the officers of that regiment a little suit of regiments, with sword complete, which will be presented to him by a deputation of the officers.

The czaritch has already quite a long list of military distinctions to his name. At his birth he was appointed hetman (chief) of all the Cossacks in the empire, and he is honorary commander of five artillery corps, the Tashkend Cadet Corps, of the Alexandr Military School in Moscow, and he has also been gazetted to two regiments of dragons.

GREAT HONORS FOR SARDOU.

PARIS, Jan. 26.—Victorien Sardou, the veteran French playwright, has received the highest award ever given by France to one of her dramatic authors. He now wears proudly the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor—a decoration never before granted to a writer of plays.

WILL INVESTIGATE
TELEPHONE GIRLS

Prussian Commission to Inquire Into Their Work and Morals.

BERLIN, Jan. 26.—The welfare of the "hello girl" is being paternally inquired into by the Prussian government, which employs a large number of telephone and other work girls in its different departments.

PRAISE FROM SAINT-SAENS
FOR PEOPLE OF AMERICA

PARIS, Jan. 26.—M. Camille Saint-Saens is still loud in his praise of Americans. He says that American audiences are among the most nearly perfect in the world, courteous and appreciative.

The celebrated composer is perfectly charmed with his trip, and lauds American hospitality and generosity. He says he found Americans very gay and lighthearted.

PRINCE OF WALES
AS AN INVENTOR

New Device Proves Boon to Poor in London Tenements.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The Prince of Wales's latest role is that of inventor. His invention is a practical domestic "notion," which has come as a boon and a blessing to the dwellers in tenement buildings.

Visiting some London "model dwellings," the prince saw that a great deal of fuel was burned in the parlor and kitchen grates where both were lighted, and that, as they were placed back to back, it would be possible to make the one grate do for both rooms.

This idea the prince communicated to an architect, who soon had it put into practical shape. The prince's invention takes the form of a double stove running through the wall, with a single grate which can be divided into two by an iron shutter. Thus one fire is sufficient to warm both rooms and to permit cooking over one fire while the other may heat the adjoining room.

UNDERTAKERS GO ON STRIKE.

VALLADOLID, Spain, Jan. 26.—In consequence of a strike of the undertakers all bodies in this town have to be taken to the burial places on stretchers.

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WE ARE PREPARED to give you the pleasure of inspecting the new wearables Dame Fashion has in store. Spring will soon be here, and every woman wants to know what she will usher in that will be new and becoming. Our windows and our stock reflect the fashion hints in advance styles. We invite you to study them.

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- CHILDREN'S SQUIRREL FUR SETS; warm and pretty for a child; worth \$3; all the remainder to be sold tomorrow at the before stock-taking price of, set \$1.00

25c 10c yd. STYLES

Waists, Skirts, and Millinery at Before Stock-Taking Prices

- \$5.00 NET WAISTS; almost every size represented, and beautiful garments for dress and evening wear; any woman will appreciate one. Before stock-taking price \$2.98
- \$5.00 and \$7.50 SEPARATE SKIRTS; made of fancy material; only one or two of a kind; if your size is here there are bargains indeed at the price of \$3.98
- TAFFETA SILK WAISTS, in plaids or plain effects; worth \$5 and \$7.50; among the finest waists shown this year. Before stock-taking price, tomorrow \$3.98
- \$5.00 and \$7.50 TRIMMED HATS, including beautiful winter models which have been most in demand. Select a new hat at the stock-taking price of \$2.98
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